GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3685
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000
SUBMERSION OF LAND
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large area of land has submerged from the water of Koshi river in Bihar particularly in Sahara, Sampaul and Madhepura throughout the year, around 40 lakh quintals of foodgrains is not being produced;

(b) if so, the details of the areas and net effects on the production of foodgrains as a result thereof;

(c) whether in the absence of any special package fisheries and parched lotus seed industries are not getting encouragement;

(d) whether the Government are formulating any special package for the development of these areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) & (b): It is estimated that about 1.4 lakh hectare of land is affected by water logging in Koshi Irrigation Command area resulting in loss in foodgrains production to the tune of about 22 lakh quintals. A High Level Committee for the Koshi region isregularly studying and recommending the various steps needed to control the waterlogging in the area after the construction of Eastern Koshi Embankment on the left bank of Koshi river.

(c) to (e): There is no special package for Koshi region as such. However, State Government can avail benefits under the centrally sponsored Command Area Development programme by evolving proposals for land reclamation works.